



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**SUPPORT TO THE KYRGYZSTANI LEGAL DEFENSE COMMUNITY
AID-176-A-00001**

**Year Three Annual Report
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014
American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative**

**With a grant from the
U.S. Agency for International Development**



*Advocates preparing opening statements as part of a mock trial exercise,
developing their lawyerly skills during a training on jury trials.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
II. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES	4
Objective One: Supporting Development and Growth of a Unified Bar Association and Well- Qualified Attorneys Able to Service the Needs of the Public	4
Activity One: Support Passage of the Law on Advocatura and Inform Advocates about the Law.....	5
Activity Two: Provide Institutional Support to the National Bar	6
Activity Three: Instituting an Ethics Council to Regulate the Defense Bar	8
Activity Four: Increasing Advocates' Qualifications Through Expanded Training.....	9
Activity Five: Computer-Based Qualification Examination for Defense Attorneys	11
Activity Six: Assessing the Legal Profession's Development.....	12
Objective Two: Equipping the next generation of lawyers with the advocacy skills and knowledge to provide quality legal representation to citizens in need	12
Activity One: Inter-University Working Group on Practical Skills Curriculum Development	13
Activity Two: Support of Practical Skills though Moot Court Competitions	15
Activity Three: Support to Clinical Legal Education: Strengthening and Sustainability	16
III. CONCLUSION	20
IV. ANNEXES	22
Annex 1: Activity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for Year Three.....	22
Annex 2: Indicator Chart of Activities	29
Annex 3: Year Three Success Stories.....	36
Annex 4: Collection of 20 Photos.....	40

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) initiated its three-year, \$1,599,100 program titled **Support to the Kyrgyzstani Legal Defense Community** in February 2012. Under this program, ABA ROLI is cooperating with the Advocates' Training Center (ATC), advocates associations, university legal clinics and law faculties, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), and members of parliament, to improve access to an impartial justice system, build public confidence in the legal system, and promote stability in Kyrgyzstan. Through a variety of training activities and resource development initiatives focused on enhancing the capacity, skills, and knowledge of practicing attorneys and the next generation of Kyrgyzstani lawyers, ABA ROLI engaged members of the legal profession to achieve clear results in Year Three towards:

1. Supporting the development and growth of a unified bar association and enhance the qualifications of attorneys to serve the needs of the public; and,
2. Equipping future generations of lawyers with the advocacy skills and knowledge to provide quality legal representation to citizens in need in a fair and adversarial manner.

Throughout Year Three, ABA ROLI continued its efforts to work towards the achievement of these two objectives by building the capacity of defense attorneys and law students to provide effective representation through innovative Continuing Legal Education (CLE) opportunities and the roll-out of new practical skills course curricula in universities; heightening the qualifications of defense attorneys through the completion and launch of a new computerized licensing exam in cooperation with the MOJ; and, identifying trends and opportunities within the legal sector for further reform through the implementation of its Legal Profession Reform Index.



Participants of an ATC training on civil procedure and the reconsideration of a case upon the discovery of new facts held in the South of Kyrgyzstan in March 2014.

Most notably, ABA ROLI is proud to report that after nearly 10 years of consideration and near passage, **in Year Three the Law on Advocatura passed all three readings in the Parliament with a majority vote and was signed into law by President Almazbek Atambayev in July, 2014.** Throughout the course of the year, ABA ROLI worked closely with its partners and stakeholders to build on its strong partnerships and advocate for the passage of this important law. With the adoption of the Law, a national unified bar of advocates will be created, empowering the defense community to engage in the legal process with a single organized voice. With the Law effective July 22, 2014, ABA ROLI has been actively supporting the establishment and institutionalization of the Bar.

In Year Three, ABA ROLI achieved significant successes and several program outcomes, including:

- Supporting the **successful passage of the Law on Advocatura** by Parliament in a majority vote and signature by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic into law;
- **Enhanced the skills and abilities of 329 defense advocates through a series of 17 trainings** on professional skills, substantive law, procedure, as well as on the new electronic qualification exam for advocates, in partnership with the ATC;
- Strengthened the practical skills of law students through the **development and introduction of three (3) practical skills courses into seven law school curriculums**;
- Continued to support six (6) university legal clinics which **enabled 186 university students to develop their practical skills by providing 583 pro bono consultations** to indigent clients;
- **Facilitated a Client Consulting and Interviewing Competition** for 16 students from eight (8) law schools of Bishkek, Osh, and Jalal-Abad legal clinics to showcase the practical skills they gained through their participation in the clinical program;
- **Developed and delivered a new computer-based qualification examination for advocates—as well as updated over 955 questions for the exam—to the MOJ** in order to minimize corruption and ensure neutral and efficient grading of the bar exam.

In addition to the successes achieved and partnerships strengthened during Year Three, this year was also a time of reflection and review for ABA ROLI to ensure its activities are responsive and its results are captured as it enters its final year of programming. During this work plan year, ABA ROLI began an in-house monitoring and evaluation effort, outlining methodology and working with legal clinics to collect data from the past two and a half years of activities. Over the next reporting period and throughout the final year of the program, ABA ROLI will continue these efforts with the legal clinics, the ATC, and other partners to capture and reflect accomplishments achieved and results sustained. *Please see Annex 1 for ABA ROLI's Activity M&E Plan and Annex 2 for ABA ROLI's Indicator Chart of Deliverables.*

II. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Objective One: Supporting Development and Growth of a Unified Bar Association and Well- Qualified Attorneys Able to Service the Needs of the Public

Throughout Year Three, ABA ROLI addressed the inequality of arms within the justice system by supporting locally organized and sustainable training for defense advocates and by working with a variety of partners and stakeholders to enact legislative reforms that would unify and strengthen the advocate community. As a result of ABA ROLI's partnership with the ATC, this year, more than 300 advocates strengthened their practical skills and substantive legal knowledge. Further, ABA ROLI worked closely with its partners throughout this year to advocate for the consideration and passage of the Law on Advocatura, which was signed into law by President Atambayev in July, 2014. The passage of the Law is a watershed for the defense advocate community, ensuring that a well-trained, independent, and self-regulating defense bar will be established that will ultimately increase citizens' access to skilled and empowered counsel that can effectively defend their rights.

Passage of the Law on Advocatura

After a tumultuous decade of review (in which the Law on Advocatura has twice been adopted by parliament and remained unsigned when the President was removed from office) the current iteration of the Law was adopted in all three readings by Parliament on June 19 and signed into law by the President on July 14.

The Law will empower the advocate community by creating a mandatory unified National Bar that will be responsible for the professional conduct of advocates. This National Bar will be charged with ensuring professional development, enforcing professional ethics, and being the voice of the defense community in the national discourse on legal reform.

Activity One: Support Passage of the Law on Advocatura and Inform Advocates about the Law

Year Three was a crucial period for the defense advocate community and ABA ROLI offered its expertise and advocacy efforts to ensure support and momentum for the passage of the Law on Advocatura were maintained. Recognizing that the legislative process takes time and requires many varied efforts, ABA ROLI held on-going discussions with the ATC, defense advocates, international organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), members of parliament, and the President's staff to identify why the Law had been stalled and to explore responsive solutions to these issues.

A main challenge to the passage of the Law in the early half of Year Three was the inaction by the Chairman of the considering parliamentary committee, Mr. Erkinbek Alymbekov, to support the consideration of the Law in a plenary session of parliament. Efforts to engage the Chairman directly on this issue to move the Law forward had gone unanswered since he took office in mid-2012, including formal letters from the advocate community addressed to the committee, violating many legislative procedural regulations. The proposed Law, which would raise the standards of the profession and call for unification of advocates, had received largely positive support from the general advocate population. Though, its opponents,

Major provisions of the Law include:

- Creation of a self-governed unified bar association built on a compulsory membership;
- Formation of governing bodies of the bar and its territorial branches;
- Formation of an Ethics Commission and Auditing Commission;
- Adoption of a Charter and Professional Ethics Code for advocates;
- Enforcement of CLE standards;
- Re-classification of lawyers and their activities as "non-commercial".

generally those further in their careers and entrenched in the system, view the increased responsibilities and requirements that this legislation would introduce as an increased burden on the profession. Nonetheless, many advocates consider unification of the defense advocate community and the increased requirements as a necessary first step to regulating the profession and advancing it as a respectable and effective legal institution.

During this sensitive time during Year Three, ABA ROLI explored alternative approaches to support the defense advocate community and bar reform, developing draft amendments and additions to the Law on Advocatura and advocates activities which could improve the legislation and ensure better regulation of the advocate community. In addition, ABA ROLI coordinated with UNDP to participate in its working group that would develop a new Concept of the Draft Law on Advocatura that could be submitted for consideration by parliament.

Then, in February, 2014, Alymbekov resigned as Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Legislation, State Structure and Human Rights, presenting a window of opportunity for the consideration and potential passage of the Law on Advocatura by Parliament. With Mr. Alymbekov's resignation, the Committee took steps to consider the draft law, approving it in its second reading on May 6. On June 19 the draft law was adopted in the third reading of the Parliament plenary session and on July 14, 2014 the Presidents of the Kyrgyz Republic signed the Law on Advocatura. The Law came into effect on July 22, 2014.



MP Galina Skripkina, a major supporter of the Law on Advocatura, reports on the Law at the Plenary Session of the Parliament in June, 2014.

The Law will affect many reforms in advocates' activities: defining the issues of continuing legal education, ethical standards, a fair and transparent qualification exam, and the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of lawyers would be defined. With the Law entering into effect in July, throughout the rest of the reporting period ABA ROLI provided technical assistance to form the working group responsible for preparing the first Congress of Advocates; develop the Charter and other by-laws of the unified bar association; and update the existing database of licensed advocates. The first Congress of Advocates is expected to take place in November of Year Four, enabling advocates to discuss the law and the new era of defense advocate association in Kyrgyzstan.

Activity One Expected Deliverables:

- A series of three (3) roundtables held to increase advocate participation in the legislative process, and one (1) subsequent to the passage of the Law.
***Completed.** Three (3) roundtables were held in March 2012 in Osh and Jalal-Abad for 63 advocates and representatives from the MOJ and one (1) roundtable was held in April in Issyk-Kul for 23 participants. ABA ROLI will hold six (6) roundtables in Year Four for advocates on the new National Bar.*
- Adoption of the Law on Advocatura.
***Completed.** The Law was adopted in all readings by parliament in June 2014 and signed into law by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic in July, 2014.*

Activity Two: Provide Institutional Support to the National Bar

As this activity has been tied to the passage of the Law on Advocatura, many activities, such as support for the first congress of advocates, and institutional and financial support for the newly created National Bar, remained on hold during Year Three. With the passage of the Law in July, ABA ROLI began undertaking activities to support the formation and start-up of the National Bar (Advocatura). Following consultation with USAID and recognizing the limited extent of support that can be provided considering the delayed adoption of the Law, during the remainder of Year Three, ABA ROLI provided technical assistance and expertise on developing constituent documents and organizing the first National Congress of Advocates. ABA ROLI will continue to support these efforts of the National Bar into the next reporting period and end of the program.

The new Law provides a legislative basis for creating a self-governing professional association of advocates with compulsory membership of all licensed advocates in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Advocatura will be a non-profit legal entity with an independent legal structure, not subject to any government agency. It will have branch offices in each region, as well as in Bishkek City and Osh City. It will be governed by a Charter specifying its procedures, powers, and structure and governed by a Congress of Advocates and a Board of Advocates.

To implement the provisions of the Law, the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic issued Order # 66 on July 23, 2014. With this document, the MOJ established a working group to develop the requisite statutory documents required for the creation of a unified National Bar. These documents—including a Bar Charter, the Charter of the Continuing Legal Education Institute for Advocates, the Code of Professional Ethics for Advocates, and Bar Regulations on Ethics Commission—will establish a self-governing, transparent, and accountable national bar association envisioned under the Law and that ensures quality representation and regulates ethical standards among defense attorneys.



Working group members discuss the statutory documents of the Advocatura in Issyk-Kul.

The working group, composed of members of parliament, members of the defense advocate community, leadership of local bar associations, and ABA ROLI held its first meetings at the end of Year Three. In August, 2014, ABA ROLI organized two meetings of the working group: one in Issyk-Kul and the second in Bishkek to review and finalize the draft of the Charter of Advocatura and Code of Professional Ethics. The working group gave particular emphasis to the preparation of the Code of Professional Ethics for Advocates and accompanying Bar Regulations on the Ethics Commission in order to establish a transparent ethics violations complaint process and disciplinary measures in line with international standards.



Working group members discuss the statutory documents of the Advocatura in Bishkek.

In addition, ABA ROLI supported the organization of the National Congress of Advocates, anticipated to take place on November 26, 2014. This Congress will join all defense advocates throughout the country (1,000 advocates are expected to attend the event) in Bishkek to approve the structure and

statutory documents of the Advocatura, and elect members to the Council of Advocatura, Ethics, and Revision Commissions. Before the

Congress, ABA ROLI in coordination with the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic, UNDP and the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ) will conduct six round tables for defense advocates in all regions of the country.

Through these roundtables, defense advocates will have the opportunity to engage working group members on the content and structure of the draft statutory documents. Equipped with input from the advocate community, following these roundtables the working group members will revise and develop the final statutory documents. Then, these documents will be presented during the first National Congress that will take place in November, 2014.

Activity Two Expected Deliverables:

- First Congress of Advocates is held.
In progress. With the passage of the Law on Advocatura, ABA ROLI will support the first Congress of Advocates on November 26, 2014.
- The Bar Association is institutionally and financially supported.
In progress / To be partially completed. ABA ROLI is supporting the development of constituent documents of the National Bar, including the Charter, ethics and disciplinary codes. However, due to timing of passage of Law on Advocatura and expected start-up of the National Bar (likely to be no earlier than January 2015), there is not sufficient time to provide sustainable financial support to the Bar before the end of the program period.
- Transitional Provisions are implemented.
In progress / To be partially completed. The final Law on Advocatura that passed in parliament included few transitional provisions, one of which is holding the first Congress of Advocates, which ABA ROLI will support. However, the final law did not include provisions regarding the transfer of the bar exam and licensing responsibilities from the MOJ to the new National Bar. ABA ROLI is supporting the National Bar in advocating for this transfer of responsibility regardless of the lack of stipulation in the new Law until the program ends.
- Initial strategic planning meeting, a series of capacity-building trainings on financial management, administration and institutional development are conducted.
Unfeasible. Due to timing of passage of Law on Advocatura and expected start-up of the National Bar (likely to be no earlier than January 2015), there is not sufficient time to provide sustainable technical support to the Bar before the end of the program period.

Activity Three: Instituting an Ethics Council to Regulate the Defense Bar

ABA ROLI had envisioned either supporting the Ethics Council of the new National Bar, or building an independent council that would regulate the field until such a time as the unified bar could support one itself. In Year Two, ABA ROLI learned that key stakeholders were not supportive of a separate regulatory body.

Therefore throughout Year Three, ABA ROLI focused its efforts on activities that would establish a unified bar with ethical institutions to be able to regulate advocates' activities. With passage of the Law on Advocatura in June, ABA ROLI renewed its efforts to ensure a qualified and ethical legal profession. As such, ABA ROLI supported the National Bar working group to develop a strong and effective draft Code of Professional Ethics and regulating enforcement mechanisms. During the next reporting period, the draft Code of Ethics for the National Bar will be presented to constituent defense attorneys during the roundtable discussions described above in *Activity Two* for feedback and recommendations. Once finalized, the Code will be presented during the National Congress for final review and approval.

Activity Three Expected Deliverables:

- Instituting an Ethics Council to Regulate the Defense Bar.

Reprogrammed. *A separate regulatory body on ethics was not supported by stakeholders. With the passage of the Law on Advocatura, ABA ROLI will support the institution of an Ethics Commission administered through the National Bar.*

Activity Four: Increasing Advocates' Qualifications Through Expanded Training

CLE trainings at the ATC are core activities for ABA ROLI. These practical seminars target practicing attorneys, and are designed to enhance skills and abilities for lawyers, and encourage learning throughout a lawyer's career. The trainings cover a broad range of topics from practical skills and technical knowledge on specific regulations to trainings aimed at raising awareness of social problems like domestic violence.



Participants practice their interviewing techniques during an ATC training in Naryn in May.

During Year Three, ABA ROLI continued to provide financial and technical support to the ATC to enable it to expand its training topics and provide more frequent trainings, and offered technical support to develop trainings on new legislation and other topical issues. During this year, the ATC, with support from ABA ROLI through its subgrant agreement, conducted 17 topical trainings, including two trainings for notaries and one prep-course on the electronic qualification exam, in various locations throughout Kyrgyzstan for a total of 329 defense advocates.

One of the successes of increasing advocates' qualification this year was conducting a number of ATC trainings in the Kyrgyz language. An evaluation by the ATC of its attending advocates showed that many clients turned to advocates in remote areas where Kyrgyz is the predominant language of the community. In order to provide effective and proper legal aid to this community, defense advocates voiced the need to have CLE trainings offered in Kyrgyz in order to strengthen their knowledge and use of legal terminology with clients in Kyrgyz. To satisfy their request, ABA ROLI, in cooperation with the ATC, conducted five trainings on professional skills of lawyers in Kyrgyz in remote areas of the country (in Naryn, Talas, Osh, and Jalal-Abad).

As a result of the trainings conducted this year, defense advocates are better prepared to positively manage their cases, and clients receive better and more effective representation. The ATC engaged lawyers in trainings on substantive law, including labor law, criminal law, domestic violence, and inheritance law to build their knowledge in the more frequent issues faced by their clients. Specific technique and procedural trainings on jury trials, reconsidering cases upon the discovery of new facts, interviewing, submission of evidence, trial advocacy, opening statements, and ethics equipped



Participants worked in groups to analyze a case during an ATC training on preparing opening statements training in Talas in September.

defense attorneys with the tools and resources to build strong cases, ensure due process, and maintain professional practices.



Participants tested their legal knowledge during the computerized bar exam “prep course” hands in Bishkek in May.

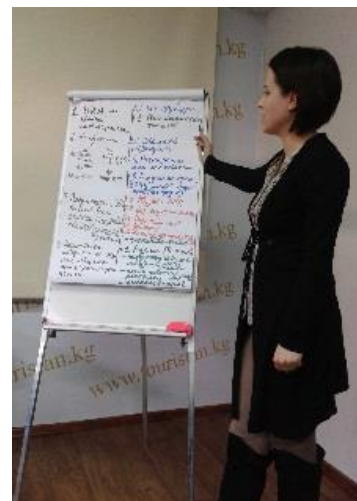
Of particular note this year, the ATC, in coordination with ABA ROLI and the MOJ, developed and conducted a special four-day pilot “prep-course” training on the new computerized qualification exam in May. While originally planned to be a one-month course, ABA ROLI, the ATC, and the MOJ agreed in early 2014 that a shorter, week-long format would serve working advocates better, considering the time limitation of candidates to attend longer courses and content the course would cover. During the pilot training, the 18 attending attorneys explored the procedures and peculiarities of the qualification exam, as

well as methodologies and approaches to taking a computer-based test. At the start of the course, participants took a practice electronic exam; and then took the same test following the training module. The practice test followed the same standards as the electronic test prepared and described above in Activity Two: test-takers had two and a half hours to answer 110 randomly generated questions (from a pool of 955), with requiring a score at least a 77 to pass.

The results were dramatic: post-training test results demonstrated that participants universally improved, with scores increasing from an average pre-training score of 19-71 to a post-training score of 65-90. This pilot training was recognized as a true success; with the roll-out of the new electronic exam in October 2014, the ATC will coordinate with the new National Bar to seek opportunities for holding this course in the future.

In addition to its successful training initiatives, the ATC underwent significant staffing and organizational restructuring in early 2014. The Supervisory Board of the ATC elected a new Director, Olga Churakova, and her new team to replace Gulnara Sheisekeeva after five years of leadership. In response to this restructuring, ABA ROLI conducted strategic planning training for the new staff in March, addressing operational issues and building approaches to developing strategic and work plans. As a result of the training, the new ATC staff developed a draft 2014-2016 Strategic Plan, identifying further strategic directions of the Center, detailed goals and objectives, values and principles, risks that may hinder the implementation of the strategy and developed ways to reduce these risks to ensure the longevity of the organization.

Over the next reporting period, ABA ROLI will continue to provide technical and financial support to the ATC to conduct approximately five topical and procedural trainings for 100 advocates. Additionally, ABA ROLI will work with the ATC to



Leadership of the ATC performed a SWOT analysis to better understand their capabilities moving forward during the strategy planning session in March 2014. “

coordinate its activities with the newly established National Bar to ensure CLE opportunities continue to be sustained with the evolving structure of the defense advocate community.

Increased Capacity of Attorneys builds Rule of Law

In a country where the reputation of lawyers remains low, the increased capability and skills of lawyers and the resulting positive experience of clients contribute to a changing public mind-set, and increase respect and responsibility for advocates. This, in turn, increases the prestige and importance of the judicial system and strengthens rule of law more broadly.

Activity Four Expected Deliverables:

- Financial support provided to ATC.

In Progress. ABA ROLI continues to provide financial support to the ATC under a multi-year sub-grant agreement. These funds are used to significantly improve the organizational capacity of the ATC, develop the training curricula of the organization, provide training to the trainers, and move towards sustainability.

- Twelve (12) topical trainings conducted (four regions, three one-day training each).

Completed and Exceeded. Topical trainings, including training on jury trials, are ongoing and ATC regularly plans for additional trainings. During Year Three, ABA ROLI and the ATC provided seventeen (17) trainings including two (2) trainings for notaries and one (1) prep qualification examination training for 329 participants.

Activity Five: Computer-Based Qualification Examination for Defense Attorneys

Through the Memorandum of Understanding between USAID and the MOJ established in Year Two of the program, ABA ROLI made significant progress towards the goal of introducing electronic entrance exams for new advocates. In fact, by the end of the work plan year, the electronic exam and finalized questions were transferred from ABA ROLI and the working group to the MOJ in anticipation of the first exam to taking place.



Discussion of the questions of the qualification exam in December 2013.



Members of the Working Group discuss exam questions in November 2013.

In Year Three ABA ROLI conducted four meetings of the working group charged with developing and refining questions for the revised electronic entrance exam. As a result of these meetings, the working group developed and approved 955 questions for the new qualification exam in both Russian and Kyrgyz, as well as approved the final formatted software that would be used for electronic testing.

As a result of these efforts during Year Three, while originally expected to be offered in July, 2014, the Ministry of Justice scheduled the roll-out of the first electronic qualification exam to take place in October, 2014.

Activity Five Expected Deliverables:

- Software for computerized exam is configured and adopted.
Completed. ABA ROLI and the technical experts have developed the necessary software, including security and functional requirements for the program. The system has been tested and the first qualification examination is planned for October 2014.
- Content of the Qualification Examination is updated.
Completed. The Working Group completed developing draft questions for the qualification examination. 955 questions have been developed, approved by the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic, and incorporated into the exam software.

Activity Six: Assessing the Legal Profession's Development

In Year Three, ABA ROLI conducted and completed its Legal Professional Reform Index (LPRI) for the Kyrgyz Republic, Volume II. The LPRI's findings are based on interviews conducted in-country in April, 2014 with lawyers, judges, prosecutors, MOJ staff, representatives of NGOs, and other justice-sector professionals, as well as a comprehensive review of legislation and secondary materials through July, 2014. The 2014 LPRI follows on the first LPRI for Kyrgyzstan, which was implemented in 2004.



ABA ROLI's LPRI was completed in July and sent for printing in September of Year Three.

A major highlight of the LPRI is the July, 2014 enactment of the new Law on Advocatura, which significantly reforms the profession and, for the first time, creates a unified, national bar. The LPRI identified several positive developments since 2004, including the Law's creation of the National Bar, with corresponding increased autonomy and self-regulation of the profession; the major role played by professional associations of lawyers in legislative reform; and the founding of the Advocates Training Center in 2008. However, the LPRI also identifies major challenges, which include serious threats to the safety and security of lawyers, a decrease in the independence of the profession, and a lack of access to legal aid for people who cannot afford a lawyer, especially in rural areas.

In the next reporting period, ABA ROLI will publish and disseminate 600 (500 Russian version and 100 English) copies of its LPRI to stakeholders, partners, and the legal community, as well as organize a roll-out event to present the analysis and discuss the factors included in the LPRI.

Objective Two: Equipping the next generation of lawyers with the advocacy skills and knowledge to provide quality legal representation to citizens in need

In order to provide law students with practical, real-world skills and a legal education more in line with international standards, ABA ROLI has supported curricula reform, client counseling competitions for students, and expanding clinical legal education opportunities across the country under this program. In Year Three, ABA ROLI worked with leading professors part of its Inter-University Working Group to successfully secure the inclusion of the three courses developed in Year Two into the curricula of seven universities across the country. More than 700 students took this course during Year Three, strengthening their practical skills, sharpening their analytical abilities, and building their substantive legal knowledge. Additionally, ABA ROLI provided sustained support to six legal clinics this

work plan year, building the practical skills of 186 students through hands-on experience providing *pro bono* legal aid and holding a second Client Counseling Competition for students to showcase their skills.

Activity One: Inter-University Working Group on Practical Skills Curriculum Development

During Year Three, ABA ROLI worked closely with members of its Inter-University Working Group, as well as university administrations to ensure the effective incorporation of the three practical skills-based courses developed during Year Two into the regular curricula of national law faculties. By the end of Year Three, ABA ROLI arranged with seven university administrations to have the practical skills courses adopted into the university-required curriculum, thus ensuring that the courses are sustained in seven universities after the conclusion of this program.

The three courses developed—“Tactics of parties in trial”, “Tactics of a defense attorney in pre-trial stage of legal proceedings”, and “Tactics of consulting and interviewing”—are the first-of-their-kind, introducing students to important procedural and interpersonal skills needed when working on a case, including legal writing, client interviewing, and pre-trial and trial advocacy skills. While students may practice these skills in a clinical setting (described in more detail below in Activity Three), due to the limited capacity of the legal clinics, clinic participation is constrained to only 30 students a year. Therefore, these courses are essential to ensuring that the general student population has the opportunity to develop their practical knowledge and skills.



Course material for the practical skills course “Tactics of Interviewing and Consulting”.



The Inter-University Working Group discusses feedback on the pilot semester of the practical skills courses.

With the approval by the scientific council of seven universities across the country, and introduction of the courses as electives for fourth- and fifth-year students for the 2013-2014 academic year, in Year Three ABA ROLI focused on refining and finalizing the course curricula and materials.

Feedback from this first pilot semester was extremely positive. Both students and professors noted the difference between this course and the standard curricula offering, highlighting that the new methodology and exposure to real cases and sample materials made the course interesting and easy for students to grasp. Following discussions of

the gaps and challenges highlighted by students and professors after the fall 2013 academic semester, the Working Group made the necessary revisions to the courses and the content was finalized and published by May of Year Three.

“The methodologies developed for these courses influence the students so much that even other professors of other courses positively note that the students ask them to organize role plays, use multimedia, hold case study activities in their lessons as well which is really great for us to know.”

-Artur Bakirov, a professor and Director of the Legal Clinic at IUK

ABA ROLI hosted a roll-out event in May to mark the completion of the courses, bringing members of the Working Group and leaders from each of the seven participating law schools to discuss the course content, structure, and lessons learned from the pilot semester as the law schools prepared for the 2014-2015 academic year. ABA ROLI printed 1,500 copies of the course materials and distributed them to the seven participating universities. Additionally, ABA ROLI made the course content available electronically as well via universities' websites, to ensure that the course is also available for recent law school graduates and other interested lawyers.



Students at the Kyrgyz State Law Academy work in a group while taking a course on tactics of defense attorneys in the pre-trial stage of legal proceedings.

As resources allow, over the next reporting period and through the end of the program, ABA ROLI will provide course materials to other interested universities as well.

Integration of Practical Skills Courses into Seven University Curriculums

Seven universities have approved the integration of the courses into the 2014-2015 academic year. ABA ROLI has received indication from university administrators that the courses will be offered in years following the close of the program, and ABA ROLI will continue to coordinate with universities to ensure the longevity of practical skills courses for law students. Universities offering the course during 2014-2015 include the Academy of Ministry of Internal Affairs; Law Institute of the Kyrgyz National University; Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University; International University of Kyrgyzstan; Kyrgyz State Law Academy; Osh State University; and Jalal-Abad Institute of Law and Business.

Activity One Expected Deliverables:

- Approval from universities for new courses to be part of their curricula during the following academic year.
Completed and Exceeded. All three (3) courses have been approved by a total of seven (7) universities and were introduced into the regular course curricula in October 2013. All seven (7) universities have approved the course material for integration into their regular curriculums during the 2014-2015 academic year.
- Three (3) practical skills courses are developed and ready for presentation to universities in April/May 2013 for approval to incorporate into their curricula.
Completed. Three (3) practical skills courses have been finalized, printed, and distributed to seven (7) universities for use as approved, regular curricula. ABA ROLI equipped law professors in the teaching methodology of the course in Year Two.

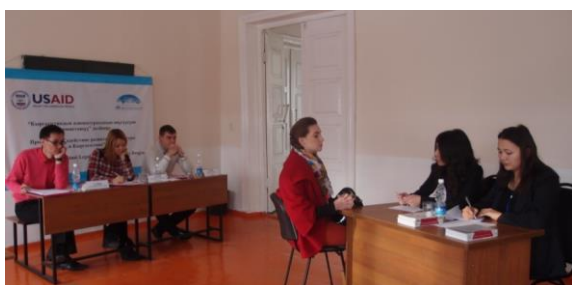
Activity Two: Support of Practical Skills through Moot Court Competitions

To provide additional practical legal instruction to law students, ABA ROLI drew on its rich history hosting Moot Court competitions to introduce Client Interviewing and Consulting competitions to law schools throughout Kyrgyzstan. The competitions have proven to be great successes, giving the students from participating universities an opportunity to practice their legal skills, exchange knowledge, and network with their peers.

In Year Three, ABA ROLI built on its successful first Client Counseling Competition from February 2013 and held the second nation-wide client counseling competition for students from eight leading universities from across the country on February 7-8, 2014. The event followed the format of the first competition and pitted eight two-person teams against each other in a friendly competition of student's knowledge of key legal procedures and codes, ability to successfully and responsibly interview clients, and the quality of the legal opinion they rendered.



Competitors spent the months leading up to the event developing their practical skills; many through their experiences in ABA ROLI- supported legal clinics at six of the eight participating universities.



During the competition, students interviewed a client before a panel of judges.

A panel of experts, themselves practicing lawyers, judged the competition. After remarking on the general enthusiasm and quality of all the participants, the judges awarded first place to a team from the Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University. The Kyrgyzstan National University and American University of Central Asia won second and third places, respectively. Teams from the southern cities of Osh and Jalal-Abad competed this year for the first time. Although they did not win top

honors, they promised to come back even stronger at the next competition in order to bring a title back home.

While most legal education in the Kyrgyz Republic relies on large lectures to teach a theoretical understanding of the legal codes, the interactive and engaging structure of this competition gave students a rare practical experience in which to test their legal knowledge and skills. Students remarked that as a result of the competition they were excited for their future careers and inspired to work even harder in their studies.



The First Place team from KRSU stand with ABA ROLI Country Director Azamat Kerimbaev and their awards.

Following the February competition, Osh State University capitalized on the practical skills courses developed by ABA ROLI and the success of the client counseling competition and organized independently a mock trial competition in June. Students took on the roles of the judge, prosecutor, and defense, putting their new skills to the test in front of their peers, and demonstrating the deep interest and enthusiasm among students for increased practical skills opportunities.

“The competitive atmosphere helped me to identify my strengths and weaknesses working with clients, so I will do my best to increase my knowledge and will demonstrate better skills next time”

- Matmusaev Eldiar, student,
Osh State University

In the next reporting period and through the end of the program, ABA ROLI will work with the six legal clinics to establish regular practical skills development activities through role plays, mock trials and other practically oriented assignments to ensure their longevity beyond the program period.

Activity Two Expected Deliverables:

- Client Counseling Competition is completed
Completed. *The first Client Counseling Interviewing Competition was conducted on February 1-2, 2013. The second Competition was conducted on February 7-8, 2014.*

Activity Three: Support to Clinical Legal Education: Strengthening and Sustainability

“He, who wants to build high towers, must devote a long time to the foundations...”

This famous proverb reflects the core essence of clinical legal education. With ABA ROLI support, the six legal clinics supported under this program have been able to provide students with essential knowledge and experience, serving as foundation for practice in their future careers, while also providing essential services to individuals who could not otherwise afford legal counsel.

Over the course of Year Three, ABA ROLI provided sustained support to legal clinics operating in six universities: Kyrgyz-Russian Slavonic University (KRSU), the Kyrgyz State Law Academy (KSLA), Kyrgyz National University (KNU), the International University of Kyrgyzstan (IUK), Osh State Law Institute (OSU), and the Jalal-Abad Institute of Law, Business and Computer Technologies (JILBCT). The clinicians are supervised by experienced professors, providing them with a unique opportunity to engage in direct dialogue and be mentored by professionals during their studies. This is in direct contrast to the typical legal education offered in Kyrgyzstan, which focuses on theoretical knowledge and large, impersonal classroom experiences. Not only do the students gain practical experience, they also develop self-confidence, ethics and a desire to win their cases. Throughout Year Three, 186 students engaged in the clinical program, of which 119 were female.



Student of Legal Clinic of Osh State University providing legal aid.

Representing Clients

Throughout the year, student clinicians provided *pro bono* legal aid to 583 members of their community. Legal clinics enable law students to provide important *pro bono* legal aid to marginalized and vulnerable groups and at the same time give students a chance to develop practical legal skills that will make them effective lawyers in the future. Below are several success stories from Year Three that highlight the skills student clinicians developed during the program:



Students of the International University of Kyrgyzstan provide legal consultation to homeless persons in the Pervomaiski district of Bishkek city.

This year the student-clinicians from IUK provided legal aid for the homeless following a request from the Social Department of Pervomaiski District Local Administration. The student-clinicians provided legal consultations to 15 homeless persons. The clients were seeking information on their rights and responsibilities as it relates to living on the streets, when confronted by law enforcement, and if they are detained.

Students at KSLA in Bishkek also had significant victories this year, greatly influencing the quality of life of their clients. One was the successful collection of alimony/remittance from a daughter working abroad for an elderly woman. Upon winning the case, the client admitted that when she approached the clinic, she did not believe the students would be able to help her. After seeing their work and the positive result of their actions, she was very grateful and complimentary of their professional capabilities.

Students at JILBCT were successful in getting alimony from a father who had been refusing to support his underage child for three years. The student-clinicians represented the client in the court proceedings and won the case. These kind of positive results have a significant impact of the legal clinic's further activities and developing greater trust within the community.

Students at KNU in Bishkek also won several cases this year. In one instance, the student-clinicians helped a client institute a criminal fraud case that had been previously ignored by law enforcement. Once the original case gained traction, two other victims of the same incident came forward and filed their own cases, all of which were seen through to a successful resolution by the student clinicians.



A student consults a client on an alimony issue

"During the practice in the clinic I position myself as a real defense attorney and I like it. I study hard, I do my best to be the prominent and famous defense attorney in the future"

—Nurjan Alymbekov, Student at KNU

Expanded Training Opportunities for Students

Beyond the case load students take on in the clinics, they are also able to participate in a variety of extra trainings and events organized by the clinics. Engaging students in competitions, discussion groups, and other tasks that vary their educational options, enhance their skills, and help maintain interest during their final years of study; inspiring them as they leave the academic sphere and enter the workforce. ABA ROLI's support to the legal clinics throughout Year Three enabled clinic administrators to independently organize trainings and events specifically for their students, building their management and operational capacity to support the growth and education of law students. For example:

Students at KRSU requested further training on the division of property, a common case students had encountered. In response, the clinic leadership organized a special training with an expert in the field. Similarly, the director of the IUK clinic organized trainings on time management and effective team work for their students, bringing in experts from partner organizations.

The KNU clinic, in addition to regular Friday roundtable discussions, organized field trips to local courts, NGOs, and state administrations for its students. This year, student-clinicians visited the Supreme Court and were able to meet with both staff and the Chairperson.

Students of IUK participated in trainings on legal ethics during interviewing and consulting. They organized a mock trial, playing the roles of judges, prosecutors and advocates. Similarly, the KSLA clinic organized two trainings on tactics of interviewing on civil cases and the KRSU legal clinic organized a special training on the professional skills of lawyers.

Kyrgyz State Law Academy Reaching Out to Youth

Student Clinicians at KSLA noticed a large number of cases dealing with labor regulations and forced child labor.

In response to this trend, they created a course on childhood labor rights and regulations in Kyrgyzstan, which they taught in local secondary schools.

In this way, students are able to meet a great need in the community while also practicing public speaking and spreading basic legal knowledge to vulnerable populations.

Career Opportunities

Clinical education is also a way for students to distinguish themselves from their peers. With high unemployment and few local employment opportunities, this experience can have a great impact on student's futures. Every year IUK organizes a career fair and in October, 2013, IUK invited 15 organizations and potential employers to participate. As a result, 90% of student-clinicians received internship offers before graduation. As a result of their participation in the clinical program, students in Jalal-Abad were also invited to intern and work for judges in November, 2013, based on their performance in court and in the clinics.

Challenges

Throughout Year Three, several clinics faced challenges attracting clients. When IUK observed a drop in its consultations, they launched an advertising campaign in the fall of 2013 to reach a broader audience. In a similar situation, four clinic directors and four students from OSU took a short study tour to visit the Jalal- Abad legal clinic, which was experiencing

a much higher case load, to discuss both training and practical exercise methods, as well as new approaches for recruiting clients. This included networking by students and clinic directors with family, friends, peers, and colleagues, and advertising on the local TV channels. The OSU directors and clinics took their shared knowledge back to their own clinic and approached client recruiting differently achieving more effective results.

Although finding clients was not an issue, KRSU noticed that the lack of trust between clients and student clinicians can be a challenge. Clients would often insist on having directors provide consultation instead of students, or use the clinic as a secondary source to confirm advice they had received from private attorneys. The clinic addressed this by rejecting clients who are using clinic resources to verify outside advice and insisting that students provide the consultations, but in close cooperation with their advisors.

Association of Clinics

Over the course of Year Three, it became increasingly apparent that greater coordination across the clinics was necessary. The directors of the legal clinics identified the need for an association of clinics in Kyrgyzstan as an opportunity for students and directors to share their experiences, lessons learned, support, and facilitate networking amongst peers. Such an association would develop common expectations for clinical education, and facilitate coordination and cooperation between clinics. This year, the directors of the six clinics began holding regular meetings to discuss means of funding and registration procedures, and agreed to collaborate as they explore outside sources of funding and support.



Clinic Directors at Osh State University present the clinic's work on a local TV channel following the successful trip to Jalal-Abad.

During the final quarter of Year Three, ABA ROLI began its monitoring and evaluation efforts for the program as it enters its final year of activities. In September, ABA ROLI visited four Bishkek legal clinics to assess the work of the clinics and the impact of clinical education on the law students. Forty four alumni of the legal clinics participated in the trainings to inform the impact of the program and usefulness of clinical education among law students. During the next reporting period, ABA ROLI will analyze the results of this assessment of Bishkek legal clinics, as well as trainings and questionnaires with the results of evaluation trainings from the Osh and Jalal-Abad legal clinics that will be held in October.

Activity Three Expected Deliverables:

- Two (2) Training-of-Trainer sessions for clinic professors are conducted.
Completed/reprogrammed. First TOT for law professors of Osh State University and Jalal-Abad University of Business and Law conducted in Osh on August 2-3, 2012. A second TOT session was scheduled for May 2014 but the professors requested to organize just study tour to other legal clinics in the country instead of trainings.
- Financial Support to legal clinics is provided.
In Progress. ABA ROLI continues to provide financial support to six (6) university legal clinics under multi-year sub-grant agreements. These funds are used to support hands-on skills building activities for law students and move towards sustainability.

III. CONCLUSION

During Year Three, ABA ROLI was able to achieve great success in accomplishing its goals and objectives. After a period when the Law on Advocatura has twice been adopted by the Parliament but remained unsigned due to political tensions in the country (in 2005, shortly before the overthrow of President Askar Akayev, and again in 2010 before the political revolution that ousted President Kurmanbek Bakiev) the Law on Advocatura was finally adopted which will empower the advocate community by creating a mandatory unified, National Bar. This National Bar will be charged with ensuring professional development, enforcing professional ethics, and being the voice of the defense community in the national discourse on legal reform.



Defense attorneys in Osh following a September seminar conducted in Kyrgyz by ATC trainers – ensuring they are capable of effectively communicating with their clients.

At the same time, ABA ROLI provided technical support to the MOJ to revise the questions of the qualification examination for prospective advocates and to develop software for a computer-based qualification examination. As this is a new format of examination ABA ROLI coordinated with the ATC and the MOJ to pilot an exam prep-course for applicants planning to take the qualification examination.

Together with these successes, ABA ROLI continued supporting the ATC and advocates' associations to enable the defense community to provide quality legal aid through tailored education and training programs. The ATC provided effective trainings for lawyers regularly as well as organizing roundtables, conferences, and public hearings, and gained significant popularity among the legal community. Together with ATC trainings, prospective lawyers gained practical knowledge through their involvement in the six legal clinics supported through this program, as well as the roll-out of three practical skills courses into seven university curriculums during the 2013-2014 academic year. These activities ensure that the next generation of lawyers will have even greater skills and knowledge, as well as a working familiarity with ethics codes and other lawyerly behavioral standards.



Students practice their counseling skills and document filing through their participation in the legal clinical program.

Throughout Year Three, ABA ROLI continued to support strong participation from the regions and active involvement of women, foster communication between the regions, and encourage relationship building amongst professors and students in the legal clinics.

During its final year of programming, ABA ROLI will build upon its productive partnerships with the ATC, legal clinics, and Ministry of Justice, as well as other stakeholders and partners, to enhance the results achieved this year. ABA ROLI will also engage in monitoring and evaluation efforts to

ensure that the results afforded and success achieved throughout the program are captured and sustainable systems are in place so defense advocates and clinics have the tools to effectively represent clients and build their professional capacity. During the next reporting period, ABA ROLI will:

- Support the ATC to deliver training for advocates on important substantive and procedural legal topics.
- Support the presentation of the first computerized qualification exam for advocates in the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- Conduct six roundtables to discuss the statutory documents of the bar and procedures/logistics for the First Congress of Advocates in all regions of the country.
- Conduct evaluation trainings for Osh and Jalal-Abad legal clinics to monitor and discuss the clinics' activities and future plans.
- Organize and air a TV-show on the Kyrgyz National Channel on upcoming bar reforms "Oi-Ordo" in participation of the representatives of the MOJ, Parliament, and prominent defense attorneys.
- Conduct the First Congress of Advocates of the National Bar.
- Hold a roll-out event for the presentation of the LPRI.
- Continue supporting the six university Legal Clinics.

IV. ANNEXES

Annex 1: Activity M&E Plan

Indicators	Definition and Unit of Measurement	Baseline	Targets	Source / Freq. of Reporting	ABA ROLI Results (September 2013)
Objective One: Support Development and Growth of a Unified Bar Association and Well-Qualified Attorneys Able to Serve the Needs of the Public					
Number of legal institutions or associations supported by USG	Includes both governmental and non-governmental institutions and associations that focus on administering and improving the legal system. # of institutions	N/A	Year 1- Five (5) institutions; Ministry of Justice; Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Legislation, State Structure, Legitimacy, and Local Self-Governance; Union of Advocates; Association “Attorneys of Kyrgyzstan”; Advocates Training Center; Year 2 – Three (3) institutions; Ministry of Justice; National Bar; Advocates Training Center Year 3- Three (3) institutions; Ministry of Justice; National Bar; Advocates Training Center	Source: Programmatic Reports Frequency: Annually	All three institutions contacted on a regular basis on various issues related to the Bar reforms.
Number of sector assessments	# of assessments; ABA’s Legal Profession Reform Index provides an empirical basis for examining the independence of legal	Last LPRI conducted in 2004 prior to ATC establishment and changes to Law on	Year 3- One (1) assessment; Legal Profession Reform Index published and distributed among justice sector stakeholders and the donor community.	Source: LPRI report	Legal Profession Reform Index was published in Year 3 and will be distributed among justice sector stakeholders and the donor community in Year 4.

	professionals	Advocatura.			
Result 1: Establishment and development of a National Bar Association, or the adoption of an alternate legal framework, that can regulate the profession based on international best practices, including enforcement of ethics and disciplinary standards					
Number of USG-supported public sessions held regarding proposed changes to legal framework	# of roundtables for advocates and MPs to promote the concept of a unified bar	Three roundtables held in 2010-2011 (two conducted by ABA ROLI and one by SOROS-foundation).	Year 1- Five (5) roundtables	Source: program records Frequency: Quarterly	Two roundtables were held in March 2012 in Osh and Jalal-Abad for a total of 63 Advocates and representatives from the MOJ, and one roundtable was held in April 2012 in Issyk-Kul for 23 participants. In March, 2013 ABA ROLI and GIZ cosponsored an international scientific/practical conference for 95 participants. ABA ROLI will hold six (6) additional roundtables for advocates in the final months of the program.
Structure, by-laws, charter and mission of the national bar adopted by Congress of Advocates	At the inaugural meeting of the Congress of Advocates, founding documents for national bar are approved by a majority of advocates and adopted.	N/A	Year 1- Documents revised/finalized by bar reform Working Group; documents adopted by Congress of Advocates	Source: WG meeting notes; action plan Frequency: Quarterly	During Year 3 the WG met regularly to develop and review the documents; The documents are going to be adopted by Congress of Advocates in Year 4
Representatives elected to governing bodies of national bar; Council of	All leadership positions		Year 1- Elections take place at	Source: Congress meeting	Elections will take place at first inaugural congress of

Advocates; Qualification Commission; Audit Commission; Disciplinary Commission	and committees established according to the Law on Advocatura	N/A	first inaugural congress of national bar	report; program records Frequency: Quarterly	national bar in Year 4.
Progress in establishing governing mechanisms for national bar	Hiring of administrative staff to coordinate bar activities	N/A	Year 2- At least one program coordinator and finance manager hired after inaugural congress Year 3- TBD-dependent upon strategic plan	Source: bar and program records Frequency: Quarterly	Will be implemented in Year 4.
	Develop long-term strategic plan setting forth measures for financial sustainability; creation of branch offices; CLE integration; creation of specialized committees (i.e. legislative reform)		Year 1- One (1) initial strategic planning session for entire bar leadership Year 2- Three(3) strategic planning sessions; Final draft submitted to Council of Advocates Year 2/ 3- Strategic plan approved; six (6) meetings/trainings for bar leaders/committee members and staff to implement strategic plan components	Source: strategic planning documents; meeting records; program records Frequency: Quarterly	Will be implemented in Year 4.
Adoption of new ethics code for advocates	Ethics Code for defense attorneys in compliance with international standards adopted by the Congress of Advocates	Existing code does not comply with international standards and best practices	Year 1- Draft ethics revised; Ethics code adopted.	Source: bar reform Working Group records; Congress of Advocates records; 2011 LPRI report	Will be implemented in Year 4.

Development of transparent disciplinary procedures	New procedures clearly define penalties for ethical misconduct; new procedures clearly define roles, responsibilities and decision-making processes between the bar and the MOJ	Existing procedures do not comply with international standards and best practices	Year 1- Draft disciplinary procedures revised and adopted Year 2- Transition provisions agreed to between bar leadership and the MOJ	Source: 2011 LPRI report Frequency: Quarterly	Will be implemented in Year 4.
Result 2: Development of qualification exam and licensing procedures for the defense bar that are fair and transparent					
Number of merit-based criteria or procedures for justice sector personnel selection adopted with USG assistance	New computerized qualification exam for advocates approved and adopted by the MOJ	Current exam and procedures are not consistent with international standards and best practices	Year 1/2- Computer-generated questions and scoring introduced	Frequency: Quarterly	Ministry of Justice Working Group developed questions for the Qualification Exam. Development of the electronic platform began in February 2013.
Content and method of delivery of qualification revised to reflect requisite knowledge for criminal defense practice and a fair procedure	# of new bar exam questions approved by MOJ	Current exam and procedures are not consistent with international standards and best practices	Year 1/2- New questions introduced to bring total of relevant questions up to 500+	Frequency: Quarterly	Development and review of 955 questions for the Bar Examination is done. The Ministry of Justice reviewed and approved the content.
% decrease in the # of challenges to	% decrease indicates exam review and subsequent	The MOJ does not maintain	Year 2- 25% decrease	Source: informal surveys of bar candidates and advocate associations	The information on statistics will be available in Year 4

qualification exam results	results are conducted in a transparent manner	official records	Year 3- 25% decrease	Frequency: Quarterly	
Result 3: Expansion and Institutionalization of CLE opportunities for defense lawyers to stay current on changes in the legal system and improve their professional qualifications					
Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance	# of new training programs developed under the Advocates Training Center	Core curricula on general professional skills in place: specialized curricula on select legal topics offered based on demand.	Year 1- At least two (2) new courses including one new course on jury trial skills Year 2- At least two (2) new courses including one new course on legal ethics Year 3- At least two (2) new courses	Source: ATC records; program records. Survey advocates. Frequency: Quarterly	Two new courses on Inheritance issues and Trial procedures developed and presented in Year 3
Number of advocates benefiting from improved teaching facilities and curricula.	# of advocates receiving training (disaggregated by gender, course topic, region)	01.10.2012-30.09.2013-353 advocates trained by ATC	Year 1- 240 advocates trained 1. Two (2) Jury Trial Trainings 2. 12 topical CLE trainings Year 2- 200 advocates trained 1. One (1) Jury Trial Training 2. 12 topical CLE trainings Year 3- 190 advocates trained 1. 12 topical CLE trainings	Source: ATC records; program records. Survey advocates and judges. Frequency: Quarterly	During the Year 3, 311 attendees received training, including 137 women. Trainings were held in Bishkek, Osh, Jalal-Abad, Talas, Naryn and Issyk-Kul.
Objective Two: Equipping the Next Generation of Lawyers with the Advocacy Skills and Knowledge to Provide Quality Legal Representation to Citizens in Need					
Result 4 :Introduction of practical legal skills course curriculum into university standards, and the harmonization of these skills courses across the leading universities					

Result 5: Strengthening and creation of legal clinics at select law faculties

Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance	# of new practical skills courses developed for law students # of new courses incorporated into university curricula	Legal ethics course introduced in 2006. Lawyers Professional Skills introduced in 2006.	Year 1- Three (3) courses (legal writing, pre-trial/trial skills, client interviewing and counseling) developed by inter-university Working Group Year 2- All three (3) courses incorporated into all partner law faculty's curriculum; two (2) new legal clinics programs established.	Source: program records; course materials; university records Frequency: Quarterly	Inter-University Working Group developed three practical skills courses for introduction into legal clinics and into six university law faculty curricula. Courses: 1. Tactics of consulting and interviewing in professional activities of lawyers; 2. Tactics of parties in trial process; 3. Tactics of advocates in pretrial stage of the legal proceedings.
Number of professors trained in interactive teaching methodology/practical legal skills	# of university professors participating in TOT programs	Baseline information will be obtained 90 days after the start of the award period	Year 2- At least 12 professors (including legal clinic directors) representing six (6) universities including Osh and Jalal-Abad State Universities; Years 2/3- Professors receive ongoing mentoring and support from ABA Short-term legal education specialists.	Source: program records; short legal specialists' monitoring reports. Survey students for their feedback. Frequency: Quarterly	Twelve (12) professors from six (6) universities (Including Osh and Jalal-Abad State Universities) received training in June 2013.
Number of law students benefiting from improved teaching	# of law students enrolled in practical skills courses and participating in moot	Baseline information will be obtained 90	Year 1- 100 students enrolled in university-based legal clinics Year 2- 360 students enrolled in	Source: program records, university records. Survey students for their feedback.	One hundred eighty six(185) students enrolled in six legal clinics; Sixteen (16) students

facilities and curricula	court competitions	days after the start of the award period	practical skills courses; 50 students participating in client counseling competitions; 150 students enrolled in university-based legal clinics Year 3- 420 students enrolled in practical skills courses; 100 students participating in moot court competitions; 180 students enrolled in university-based legal clinics.	Frequency: Quarterly	participated in client counseling competition.
Number of legal aid groups and law clinics assisted by USG	# of university-based legal clinics receiving institutional and financial support	KRSU, KNU, OSU, and KSLA legal clinics receive limited financial support from university administration; no clinics exist at Jalal-Abad or Osh Law Institute	Years 1- Four (4) legal clinics Years 2 and 3- Six (6) legal clinics	Source: program records Frequency: Quarterly	ABA ROLI supports six legal clinics: four that were already functioning and two newly established with funds from this program.

Annex 2: Indicator Chart of Deliverables

Activity	Indicator	1 st Quarter Result (Feb-Mar 2012)	2 nd Quarter Result (April-June 2012)	3 rd Quarter Result (July-Sept 2012)	4 th Quarter Result (Oct-Dec 2012)	5 th Quarter Result (Jan-Mar 2013)	6 th Quarter Result (April-June 2013)	7 th Quarter Results (July – Sept 2013)	8 th Quarter Result (Oct – Dec 2013)	9 th Quarter Result (Jan-March 2014)	10 th Quarter Result (April-June 2014)	11 th Quarter Result (July-Sept 2014)
Support Passage of the Law on Advocatura	Four (4) roundtables increasing advocate participation in legislative process	N/A	Three (3) roundtables held for 86 participants	N/A	N/A	One (1) roundtable held in Bishkek for 95 participants	Completed in previous quarter.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Adoption of Law on Advocatura	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	Continued activities to support adoption of the Law	The Law on Advocatura adopted
Provide Institutional Support to the National Bar		Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Scheduled for the next quarter
Instituting an Ethics Support to the Kyrgyzstani Legal Defense Community (AID-0176-M-12-000)		Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Dependent on the adoption of Law on Advocatura	Scheduled for the next quarter

ABA Rule of Law Initiative
Annual Report, October 2012 – September 2013

Council to Regulate the Defense Bar		the adoption of Law on Advocatura	the adoption of Law on Advocatura	the adoption of Law on Advocatura	adoption of Law on Advocatura	the adoption of Law on Advocatura	adoption of Law on Advocatura	the adoption of Law on Advocatura	adoption of Law on Advocatura	adoption of Law on Advocatura	adoption of Law on Advocatura	next quarter
ATC CLE Curriculum Development and Training	Financial Support to the ATC	N/A	N/A	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC
	Two multi-day trainings on jury trials	N/A	One-day training held	One-day training	Two-day training held	N/A	N/A	N/A	One-day training held	N/A	N/A	
4	12 topical trainings		Seven (7) trainings held	ABA ROLI fully executed a subgrant agreement with ATC and ATC	ATC held nine (9) trainings	ATC held seven (7) trainings	ATC held six (6) trainings	ATC held five (5) trainings	ATC held two (2) trainings	ATC held four (4) trainings	ATC held five (5) trainings	ATC held five (5) trainings

Support to the Kyrgyzstani Legal Defense Community (AID-176-A-12-00001)
ABA Rule of Law Initiative
Annual Report, October 2012 – September 2013

				held five (5) trainings								
	4 trainings for notaries	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	ATC held one (1) training	N/A	N/A	ATC held two (2) trainings	N/A	N/A	N/A
Improving the Qualification Examination Process	Exam Questions Developed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1. MOU between USAID and Ministry of Justice signed. 2. Working group is established; 3. Development	Development of the Exam Questions is in progress.	Exam questions are with the Ministry of Justice for final review and approval.	The Ministry of Justice has approved Exam questions.	Exam questions have been edited, translated.	Exam questions have been edited, translated.	Exam Questions Developed

						ment of the Exam Questions is in progress.						
	Software for computerized exam is configured and adopted	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	In progress.	In progress.	Software is developed and will be rolled out once content is approved.	Software is developed and will be rolled out once content is translated.	Software is developed and questions are being incorporated.	Software is developed and questions have been incorporated.	Software is developed and questions have been incorporated.
Inter-University working group on practical skills curriculum development	Three (3) practical skills courses developed and ready for presentation to Universities by Spring 2013	First meeting of the working group held in March 2012	Three subgroups formed to develop courses	Work more than 50 percent completed on developing courses during reporting period.	N/A	Three practical skills courses were developed and ready for presentation to Universities by Spring	1. The Inter-University Working Group completed the final drafts of three (3) practical skills courses	Three practical skills courses have started being taught	Three (3) practical skills courses have been developed and introduced into curricula of seven university	Three (3) practical skills courses have been edited and sent for publication.	Three (3) practical skills courses have been published and disseminated.	Three (3) practical skills courses have been published and disseminated.

						2013	<p>this quarter.</p> <p>2. A final product will be prepared after the first semester “trial – run” of the courses. Expected completion in Winter 2013.</p> <p>3. TOT on Educational Methodological Complex for twelve (12) law professors of six (6) universities conducted</p>	<p>d after the first “trial – run” of the courses . Expected completion in Winter 2013.</p> <p>3. TOT on Educational Methodological Complex for twelve (12) law professors of six (6) universities conducted on June 26-29,</p>				
--	--	--	--	--	--	------	---	---	--	--	--	--

							d on June 26- 29, 2013.	2013.				
Support of practical skills through Client Competitions	National Client Counselling Competition to be completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	National Client Counselling Competition held in February 2013	N/A	N/A	N/A	National Client Counselling Competition held in February 2014	N/A	N/A
Support and expansion of Clinical Legal Education	1. TOT training for clinic professors	N/A	Twelve (12) professors from six universities (Including Osh and Jalal-Abad State Universities) received training in June 2013.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Support to the Kyrgyzstani Legal Defense Community (AID-176-A-12-00001)
ABA Rule of Law Initiative
Annual Report, October 2012 – September 2013

	2. Financial Support to Legal Clinics	N/A	N/A	A first TOT for law professors at Osh and Jalal-Abad Universities was held.	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support	Six Legal Clinics receive financial and technical support

Annex 3: Year Three Success Stories

Legal Clinic Provides Needed Services and Infuses Students with Passion for the Profession February 2014

“After spending just six months [working] in the clinic, I see my future entirely differently,” says Toktosunova Batma, a second-year law student at Kyrgyzstan’s Jalalabad Institute of Law and Business. “Whereas before I was nervous, now I am confident and excited. I see myself as ready to take on new challenges [and to] face the administration, the courts and [colleagues] in law enforcement and the Prosecutor’s Office to advocate on behalf of clients.”



In Fall 2013, Batma was competitively selected to enroll in the university’s legal clinic program. “Before, I was unsure that I could truly become a defense attorney,” she says. “Most of our courses focused on legal theory, and I was not sure that I would know what to do in practice. Just the thought of being in a courtroom or talking to law enforcement officers sent shivers down my spine, and I was genuinely afraid of facing a prosecutor!”

“Most people [here] cannot afford to hire a lawyer,” says Batma (right). “We are very happy that we can provide such a valuable service for our community.”

With ABA ROLI support, the university had launched its legal clinic program the previous year to offer skills-oriented educational opportunities to its students. Those enrolled in the legal clinic, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development as part of an effort to support the legal defense community, assist clients with actual cases while working under the supervision and mentorship of their professors. Prior to joining the clinic, the participating professors themselves had taken ABA ROLI-led courses to enhance their teaching and managerial skills.

Through the clinical experience, the professors help the students gain a competitive edge in their profession via opportunities to analyze legal cases and to work directly with clients. Thus far, 35 students have participated in the clinical program at the Jalalabad Institute of Law and Business, and students say that the legal clinic complements their classroom lectures and equips them with skills that will smooth their transitions from law students to practicing lawyers.

In remote Jalalabad, limited awareness of legal rights and poverty combine to hamper access to justice. “Most people [here] cannot afford to hire a lawyer,” says Batma. “We are very happy that we can provide such a valuable service for our community.”

As an example, she shares the story of a recent client. The woman sought legal assistance because her husband, who had a history of domestic violence (DV), had beaten her and taken her children, aged one and three. She had earlier sought help from law enforcement agencies.

However, unaware that it was required, she had not obtained the doctor-verified evidence that the agencies needed to proceed.

After the legal clinic accepted the case and began proceedings to file for a divorce on the client's behalf, her husband learned that she was benefiting from legal aid. In response, he immediately returned her children. To help ensure the ongoing safety of the client and her children, the legal aid team asked the court's medical experts to analyze the woman's injuries. The results supported the woman's DV claims, providing enough evidence for the legal clinic to file a criminal suit against her husband.

This success story can be found on the ABA ROLI website at: http://www.americanbar.org/advocacy/rule_of_law/where_we_work/europe_eurasia/kyrgyzstan/news/news_kyrgyzstan_legal_clinic_train_future_lawyers_0214.html

Kyrgyzstani Law Students Participate in Annual Client Counseling Competition May 2014

From February 7–8, the ABA Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI) held a second client counseling competition in Bishkek. Eight universities from Bishkek, Osh and Jalalabad were represented by a two-person team each. Presided over by practicing lawyers, the competition tested the students' knowledge of key legal procedures and codes, as well as their ability to interview clients and to render legal advice.



Students interview a client, portrayed by a professional actor, in front of a panel of judges.

The Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University team won first place, while the Kyrgyzstan National University and the American University of Central Asia teams won second and third place, respectively. The event was a follow-on to the first ABA ROLI-hosted client counseling competition, which attracted 13 teams from five Bishkek-based law schools. Participating students said that they will share their experiences with students in their respective universities.

The interactive and engaging competition was organized to give students practical experiences that would enhance the lecture-focused and highly theoretical training they receive in law school. Leading up to the competition, participants worked on developing their practical skills, including by taking newly introduced practical skills courses and by working on real cases at ABA ROLI-supported legal clinics.

Students said that the competition rejuvenated their excitement and inspiration for their future careers. “The competitive atmosphere helped me to identify my strengths and weaknesses [in] working with clients,” said Eldair Matmusaev of Osh State University. “So, I will do my best to increase my knowledge and [to] demonstrate better skills.”

In addition to showcasing participants' professional skills, the competition provides students from different universities and regions an opportunity to network with their peers. It also helps to diffuse the tense relations that ensued from a violent conflict in 2010 and to promote stability and understanding among youth from the southern and northern regions of Kyrgyzstan. Organized in cooperation with the legal clinics of six law schools, the event was supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

To learn more about our work in Kyrgyzstan, contact the ABA Rule of Law Initiative at rol@americanbar.org.

This success story can be found on the ABA ROLI website at: http://www.americanbar.org/advocacy/rule_of_law/where_we_work/europe_eurasia/kyrgyzstan/news/news_kyrgyzstan_annual_client_counseling_competition_0514.html

Statement of William C. Hubbard, president, American Bar Association Re: New Unified Bar Association in the Kyrgyz Republic

The ABA applauds the recent passage in the Kyrgyz Republic of legislation that raises the status, influence, and reputation of the defense advocate community through the creation of a unified bar—a true advancement for the legal profession and for Kyrgyzstani citizens.

The Law on Advocatura of the Kyrgyz Republic and Advocate Activities, approved by parliament and signed into law by President Atambayev, represents a new chapter in the organization and professionalism of defense attorneys in the Kyrgyz Republic. The bar is charged with a number of mandates, including advancing and enforcing ethics standards, promoting standardized continuing legal education, and defining the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of lawyers. These are essential activities that help to ensure quality legal services, stem corruption and enable due process.

The ABA encourages further legal sector reforms that build upon the momentum and political will demonstrated by the law's passage. The ABA, through its Rule of Law Initiative, also provides the new unified bar with technical assistance as it builds its capacity to serve the interest of defense attorneys, and ultimately, their clients.

Please click [here](#) for a biography and photo of William C. Hubbard, president of the American Bar Association.

With nearly 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is one of the largest voluntary professional membership organizations in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law. View our privacy statement online. Follow the latest ABA news at www.ambar.org/news and on Twitter @ABANews.

This entry was posted on Tue Sep 02 11:39:05 CDT 2014 and filed under News Releases and William C. Hubbard.

This statement by the ABA President can be found on the American Bar Association website at: http://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2014/09/statement_of_william.html

Annex 4: Collection of 20 Photos from Year Three



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Domestic violence / Alpinist Hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 12.11.2013



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Domestic violence" / Alpinist Hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 12.11.2013



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Domestic violence" / Alpinist Hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 12.11.2013



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Prospective advocates- participants of the training "Preparation for qualification examination to get advocates license" / Touristan hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 23.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Prospective advocates- participants of the training "Preparation for qualification examination to get advocates license" / Touristan hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 23.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Prospective advocates- participants of the training "Preparation for qualification examination to get advocates license" / Touristan hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, / 23.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Prospective advocates- participants of the training "Preparation for qualification examination to get advocates license" / Touristan hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 23.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Prospective advocates- participants of the training "Preparation for qualification examination to get advocates license" / Touristan hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 23.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Han Tengri hotel, Naryn city, Kyrgyzstan / 30.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



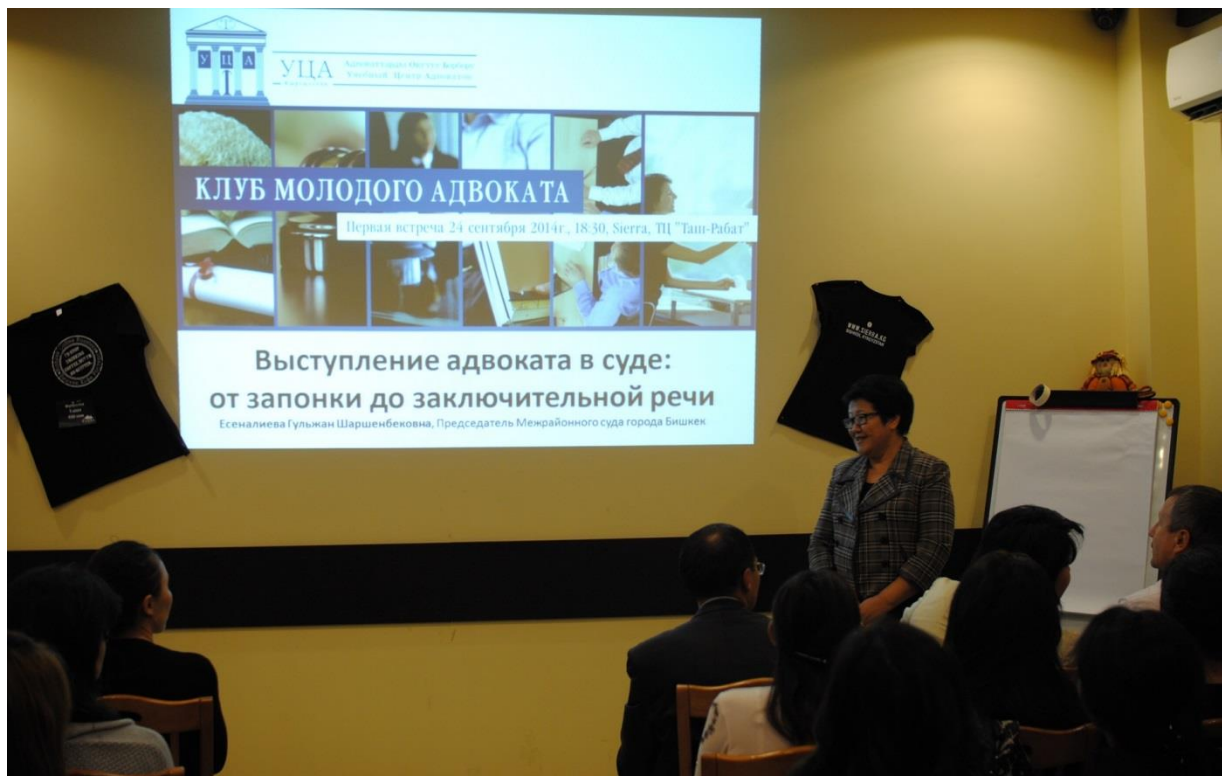
ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 14.06.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Han Tengri hotel, Naryn city, Kyrgyzstan / 30.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Interviewing and consulting a client. Advocate's rule of conduct" / Han Tengri hotel, Naryn city, Kyrgyzstan / 30.05.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Young advocates - participants of the meeting "Young Advocates' Club" / Tash-Rabat Trade Center, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan / 19.09.2014



ABA ROLI Support to the Kyrgyzstan Legal Defense Community (USAID), Advocates' Training Center / Advocates- participants of the training "Professional skills of advocates. Analysis of a case, development of positions on the case. Representation in a court." / Talant hotel, Talas city, Kyrgyzstan / 24.09.2014